

# COAX

VERSUS

# FIBER

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## COMPARING INTERNET ACCESS OPTIONS

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### Architecture

Coax transmits data through insulated cables with a copper core. This cable can supply both your internet and television connection simultaneously.

Fiber optic cables are composed of incredibly thin glass fibers that convert electrical signals into light to carry digital information from one location to another.

### Availability

Reaching nearly 90 percent coverage nationwide, this solution is widely accessible and often already exists in many multi-tenant buildings.

Despite its growing popularity, fiber isn't nearly as ubiquitous as coax, making it more difficult and expensive to implement and even gain access to.

### Reliability

While its insulated structure protects service from most environmental factors, coax is not immune to outages and overall performance is heavily dependent on the volume of concurrent users.

Because fiber is a dedicated service built to meet business needs, it's not nearly as susceptible to outages and its overall performance is not affected by the number of concurrent users.

### Speed

Coax provides asymmetric speed, meaning that uploading speeds are faster than downloading speeds. While these speeds are significantly slower than fiber, they're often sufficient for smaller businesses.

Fiber provides symmetric speeds and is overall much faster than coax. This makes it ideal for larger companies prone to high-volume usage and in which access is mission-critical.

### Cost

Because of its wide availability, coax cable is easy to install, making implementation relatively inexpensive. Plus, there are often internet and television bundling options that can maximize savings.

When you consider activation and installation fees, fiber is more expensive upfront. And because the installation process can be extensive, office productivity and your bottom line may be impacted.

### Conclusion

When it comes to comparing coax and fiber, there's no clear winner. Like so many other decisions, the answer depends on your unique business situation. You have to weigh factors like your location, budget and bandwidth needs. If you'd like some assistance in figuring out the optimal solution for your organization, don't hesitate to reach out to us at [www.telnetww.com/contact](http://www.telnetww.com/contact) or (800) 974-4800 today!